

IN THE CLAIMS

This listing of claims will replace all prior versions, and listings, of claims in the application:

Listing of Claims:

1. (Currently Amended) A backlight device, ~~in particular for a liquid crystal display, which comprises~~ display, the backlight device comprising several lamps disposed within a housing, whereby each lamp comprises a part that can be cooled so as to obtain a good light output, ~~characterized in that the aforesaid parts of the lamps extend~~ the part extends through the wall of the housing into a channel through which air can flow.

2. (Currently Amended) A ~~The~~ backlight device as claimed in claim 1, ~~characterized in that wherein~~ said lamps are tube-like fluorescent tubular lamps, which extend into the channel with at least one end.

3. (Currently Amended) ~~A~~The backlight device as claimed in claim 1, ~~characterized by further comprising a fan for generating an air flow through the channel.~~

4. (Currently Amended) ~~A~~The backlight device as claimed in claim 3, ~~characterized in that extend said fan extracts air from the channel, or blows air into the channel, as the case may be, at a location between two parts of the aforesaid lamp parts.~~

5. (Currently Amended) ~~A~~The backlight device as claimed in claim 1, ~~characterized by further comprising a sensor for measuring the temperature of the part of a lamp that extends into the channel.~~

6. (Currently Amended) ~~A~~The backlight device as claimed in claim 1, ~~characterized in that wherein the channel comprises a wall which is provided with a recess between two parts of the aforesaid lamp parts so as to allow air to pass therethrough.~~

7. (Currently Amended) ~~A~~The backlight device as claimed in

claim 1, ~~characterized in that wherein~~ the housing of the lamps forms a dustproof space, and ~~in that the aforesaid wherein~~ the wall abuts against the lamp in a substantially dust-tight manner at the a location where the lamp extends through said wall.

8. (Currently Amended) A The backlight device as claimed in claim 7, ~~characterized in that wherein~~ said wall comprises a flexible material, which abuts against the lamp.

9. (Currently Amended) A The backlight device as claimed in claim 1, ~~characterized in that wherein~~ the housing abuts against a diffuser plate in a dust-tight manner.

10. (Currently Amended) A liquid crystal display comprising a the backlight device as claimed in claim 1.

11. (Currently Amended) A method of lighting a ~~liquid crystal display, which display that~~ includes a backlight device which comprises several lamps disposed within a housing, whereby each lamp comprises a part that can be cooled so as to obtain a good

light output, ~~characterized in that the aforesaid parts of the~~
~~lamps extend wherein the part extends through the wall of the~~
housing into a channel through which air flows.

12. (Currently Amended) The method of claim 11, wherein said
lamps are ~~tube-like fluorescent tubular~~ lamps, which extend into
the channel with at least one end.

13. (Currently Amended) The method of claim 11, wherein ~~by a~~
~~fan for further comprising~~ generating an air flow through the
channel.

14. (Currently Amended) The method of claim 13, wherein said
fan extracts air from the channel, or blows air into the channel,
~~as the case may be, at a location between two parts of the~~
~~aforesaid lamp parts.~~

15. (Currently Amended) The method of claim 11, wherein ~~a~~
~~sensor for further comprising~~ measuring the temperature of the part
of ~~a lamp that~~ extends into the channel.

16. (Currently Amended) The method of claim 11, wherein the channel comprises a wall which is provided with a recess between two parts of the aforesaid-lamp parts-so as to allow air to pass therethrough.

17. (Currently Amended) The method of claim 11, wherein the housing ~~of the lamps~~ forms a dustproof space, and ~~in that the~~ aforesaid-wherein the wall abuts against the lamp in a substantially dust-tight manner at the-a location where the lamp extends through said wall.

18. (Previously Presented) The method of claim 17, wherein said wall comprises a flexible material, which abuts against the lamp.

19. (Previously Presented) The method of claim 11, wherein the housing abuts against a diffuser plate in a dust-tight manner.

20. (Currently Amended) The method of claim 11, wherein

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comprising a backlight device as claimed in claim 11 the display is
a liquid crystal display.